

EXTENSIONS OF REMARKS

HONORING ANDREA COHEN

HON. BENNIE G. THOMPSON

OF MISSISSIPPI

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Monday, November 14, 2022

Mr. THOMPSON of Mississippi. Madam Speaker, I rise today to honor a remarkable cancer survivor, Mrs. Andrea Cohen.

Mrs. Andrea Cohen is the daughter of Annie Lee Jones. She is a native of Grenada, MS. She is also the wife of Pastor Darien Cohen and the amazing mother of three beautiful children—Deshawn Cohen, Shakeeria Atkins, and D'Ashley Cohen. She has 4 beautiful grandchildren—Laniah, Deshawn Jr. (DJ), Kendall, and Addison.

Mrs. Cohen is a full-time teacher at the Grenada Lower Elementary School. She has been teaching for over 10 years. Mrs. Cohen loves her students dearly and she enjoys teaching them. She goes above and beyond to make sure her students learn the material is being taught to them.

She graduated from the University of Mississippi with a Bachelor of Arts in Elementary Education. She then returned to the University of Mississippi and received two master's degrees.

Mrs. Cohen was diagnosed with breast cancer in 2018. She fought through chemo and two years later Mrs. Cohen was cancer free.

Mrs. Cohen is a living testimony, and she does not mind telling other young women what she has gone through and how she fought through her dark times.

Madam Speaker, I ask my colleagues to join me in recognizing Mrs. Andrea Cohen for being a light that shines even in her dark times.

RECOGNIZING RUSTIC BUFFALO ARTISAN MARKET AS THE CHAMBER OF COMMERCE OF TONAWANDAS' BUSINESS OF THE YEAR

HON. BRIAN HIGGINS

OF NEW YORK

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Monday, November 14, 2022

Mr. HIGGINS of New York. Madam Speaker, today I am pleased to honor Rustic Buffalo Artisan Market, a local market that was opened during the height of the COVID-19 pandemic. It was a dedicated effort to help local artisans and their families who would be affected by COVID safety regulations. It filled the void of craft shows, festivals, and large events to sell handmade items. On November 14, 2020, the Western New York community embraced this venture and waited in line for hours.

Since then, Rustic Buffalo Artisan Market has been actively running among its three buildings with over 120 award-winning curated artisans. In addition, Rustic Buffalo Sip &

Shop events are hosted four times a year to promote their partnerships with local non-for-profits and charities. In just the past two years, Rustic Buffalo has raised over \$117,000 for local charities and not-for-profit organizations.

This idea was borne by necessity; the COVID-19 pandemic disrupted so much of our local economy, and it would have had even more devastating consequences had Rustic Buffalo Artisan Market not been created. I know that I speak for countless Western New Yorkers when I say that its operation saved many careers and livelihoods. Looking forward, the Rustic Buffalo Market looks to expand into new territory, which is sure to be just as successful.

Perhaps most impressive, Rustic Buffalo has one hundred percent retention since their opening. Understandably, they have attained many accolades since their opening in 2020. These include the Best New Business of 2020 (Buffalo Spree), Best Gift Shop (Buffalo News), Best New Business in WNY (Buffalo News), and most recently Best Unique Gift Shop in WNY (Buffalo Spree). Rustic Buffalo leadership is also a contributor to Buffalo Business First New Paper on the importance of retention and the continuous need to look for strategies to grow your business.

Madam Speaker, I am honored to recognize this new staple to the local economy and commend their team who remain dedicated to giving back to our community.

IN MEMORY OF REVEREND CHARLES MELVIN SHERROD

HON. SANFORD D. BISHOP, JR.

OF GEORGIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Monday, November 14, 2022

Mr. BISHOP of Georgia. Madam Speaker, it is with a heavy heart and solemn remembrance that I rise today to pay tribute to an outstanding man of God, iconic civil rights pioneer, dedicated leader and friend of long-standing, Rev. Charles Melvin Sherrod. Sadly, Rev. Sherrod transitioned from labor to reward on Tuesday, October 11, 2022, at the age of 85. He leaves in his wake many heavy hearts among his family, friends, community and across the nation. A homegoing service celebrating his life was held Saturday, October 15, 2022 at Mount Zion Baptist Church in Albany, Georgia at 11:00 a.m.

Charles Sherrod was born on January 2, 1937 in rural Surry, Virginia to the late Mr. Raymond Sherrod and Ms. Martha Mae Gibson. After moving with his grandmother and siblings to nearby Petersburg, Charles would go on to become president of his student body at the all-black Peabody High School where he played sports, participated in theatre, and served as school chaplain (Quiros, 2022). Having heard the call to God's ministry at an early age, his strong Christian faith steeled his resolve to challenge the stain of racial segregation in the Jim Crow south and in 1954 at

the age of 17, he participated in a kneel-in at a segregated white church.

Following graduation from high school, Charles attended Virginia Union University in Richmond where he earned a Bachelor's in Sociology and a Master's in Theology. In February 1960, he and 33 other student activists staged a sit-in at the lunch counter of Thalheimer's Department Store in downtown Richmond, were arrested and became known as the "Richmond 34". In April of that year, Sherrod and other students attended a meeting at Shaw University in Raleigh, North Carolina where the Student Nonviolent Coordinating Committee (SNCC) was founded. Sherrod volunteered to be placed anywhere and was sent by the Southern Christian Leadership Conference to Albany in Southwest Georgia as SNCC's first field secretary along with Cordell Reagon and Charles Jones.

Working with others in Albany, including Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr., he launched a full assault against racial violence and segregation through nonviolent demonstrations and the registration of thousands of disenfranchised Black Americans in the region. Unfortunately, Police Chief Laurie Pritchett, "unlike so many other Southern lawmen, avoided the spectacle of publicly attacking protesters" and just jailed successive waves of them in separate remote locations in surrounding counties until there were no more protesters (Quiros, 2022). The "Albany Movement," as it was called, ended and Dr. King left, but Sherrod persevered with successful Black voter registration. Ultimately, within months the Albany City Commission voted to repeal all segregation laws from its books. Charles Sherrod continued his work in Albany, Americus, Moultrie, and other cities, later changing the focus to school integration.

In 1964, Sherrod left Albany and went to Union Theological Seminary in New York to earn a Master's of Divinity. Meanwhile, he impacted the greater American Civil Rights Movement by recruiting for the 1963 March on Washington and marching for voting rights in Selma on Bloody Sunday. He returned to Albany and brought with him white seminarians to create a moral society where Black and white Americans could live and work together in unity and peace (Quiros, 2022). By 1966 SNCC became more militant, the Black Power Movement emerged and Sherrod broke with SNCC and worked with the Georgia Freedom Project (Quiros, 2022). Also in 1966, Charles Sherrod married Shirley Miller of Baker County and they founded a farming collective, New Communities, which was the largest Black-owned plot in the United States where they worked the land and helped people (Quiros, 2022).

Unfortunately, a severe drought occurred in 1980 and the Sherrods were repeatedly denied help from the U.S. Department of Agriculture and the farm was taken by foreclosure (Quiros, 2022). Devastated by the loss of the farm, Charles and Shirley nevertheless continued their work in southwest Georgia. Charles was elected to the Albany City Commission serving 14 years, was a prison chaplain and a professor at Albany State University.

• This "bullet" symbol identifies statements or insertions which are not spoken by a Member of the Senate on the floor.

Matter set in this typeface indicates words inserted or appended, rather than spoken, by a Member of the House on the floor.

The Sherrod's sued USDA, alleging racial discrimination and were awarded a settlement for wrongful dispossession of New Communities; they used the money to purchase Cypress Pond Plantation, an antebellum plantation now managed by descendants of slaves, to help rural Black landowners profit from farming and to be a model for solving the nation's affordable housing shortage (Quiros, 2022). "From marching in the Albany Movement, being beaten and jailed, registering rural folks to vote, serving in local politics, and founding New Communities," wrote Professor Ansley L. Quiros in a piece published by the Washington Post, "Sherrod stayed with the course of freedom and the beloved community until his death" (2022).

Rev. Charles M. Sherrod accomplished much in his life, but none would be possible without the grace of God and the love and support of his wife, Shirley; his two children, Russia and Kenyatta; his 5 grandchildren, and other family and loved ones who will miss him dearly.

Madam Speaker, I ask that my colleagues in the House of Representatives join my wife, Vivian and me, along with the 730,000 people of the 2nd Congressional District of Georgia in honoring the life and legacy of Rev. Charles Melvin Sherrod and in extending our deepest condolences to his family, friends and all who mourn his loss. May they be consoled and comforted by an abiding faith and the Holy Spirit in the days, weeks and months ahead.

[From the Washington Post, Oct. 13, 2022]

A VITAL CIVIL RIGHTS ACTIVIST YOU NEVER
HEARD OF HAS DIED

(By Ansley L. Quiros)

Charles Melvin Sherrod died on Tuesday at the age of 85 in Albany, Ga., a place he went to in 1961 and never left. If you are not from southwest Georgia, his name might not be familiar. But Charles Sherrod is the most important civil rights figure you've never heard of. Recovering his story offers us a chance not only to honor a civil rights hero, but also to better understand the struggle for freedom to which he committed himself for so long.

Sherrod was born on Jan. 2, 1937, in Surry, Va., a place he described as a "speck." He never knew his father and was raised primarily by his grandmother within a broad community of friends and cousins. Even as a young child, Sherrod possessed a deep faith in God and a precocious theological imagination. Probably inspired by the sermons he heard at Mount Olive Baptist Church, he would often play church, preaching to other children and soon sensing a real call to the ministry. "I was preaching when I was about 6 years old," Sherrod told me, adding, "I was born a preacher." He would carry that preacher's zeal and deep moral vision with him for the rest of his life.

Despite the racism and suffocating poverty he experienced in childhood, Sherrod excelled in school. He attended the all-Black Peabody High School where he played sports, acted in plays and served as student body president and school chaplain. Sherrod then attended Virginia Union University where he earned his undergraduate degree in sociology, and then an M.A. in theology, fulfilling his ambition to become a minister.

During this time, Sherrod's Christian commitments first led him to challenge the dehumanization of Jim Crow. He participated in a "kneel-in" at a segregated church in 1954 and later joined a picket in front of Thalheimer's department store. "I saw the [lynching] rope in my mind," he confessed,

but he also felt a sense of responsibility since people were "coming to me, asking me for leadership."

Shenod was a natural leader: smart and calm with a ready, broad smile.

In April 1960, his civil rights activities took Sherrod to a meeting at Shaw University, where the Student Nonviolent Coordinating Committee (SNCC) was founded. SNCC's vision—nonviolence, collective action and the pursuit of a beloved community in which all people are afforded dignity, respect and care—appealed to Sherrod's calling, both to Christianity and racial justice. After the meeting, Sherrod told Ella Baker, the veteran activist who was then the executive secretary for the Southern Christian Leadership Conference who convened the students, that "I'd be willing to be placed anywhere." She sent him to southwest Georgia, a place W.E.B. Du Bois had once called the "Egypt of the Confederacy," where he would spend the next six decades working for freedom.

Sherrod arrived in Albany as SNCC's first field secretary, "full of zeal and empty of almost everything else." But soon, he and the men and women of Albany launched a full-scale assault on Jim Crow unlike anything that had been seen before. The Albany Movement, as it became known, was a dramatic mobilization of people against racial violence and segregation.

In traditional accounts of the civil rights movement, Albany is depicted as a failure, a place where the Rev. Martin Luther King Jr. was outmaneuvered by Police Chief Laurie Pritchett, who unlike so many other Southern lawmen, avoided the spectacle of publicly attacking protesters, and simply locked them up. This is why Sherrod's story is crucial. The Albany Movement was only a failure when considered from the perspective of King. The movement continued after King left, making important, if slow, gains. "Nothing could stop the people," Sherrod said, "certainly not jail or the threat of jail, not [even] death."

Sherrod stayed, organizing in the rural counties, though he did take a "Movement sabbatical" in 1964, heading to Union Theological Seminary in New York. He earned a Master's of Divinity and then returned to southwest Georgia, bringing White seminarians with him as part of an exchange program called the Student Interracial Ministry. For Sherrod, this was a continuation of his civil rights work. He insisted, always, that the end was not simply political but moral: a society where Black and White Americans, all created in the image of God, could live and work together in unity and peace.

In 1966, this philosophy led to a breach with SNCC, which was moving away from interracialism and Christian nonviolence and toward a more militant stance of Black Power. As Sherrod put it: "I didn't leave SNCC, SNCC left me." But he stayed with the work of racial justice—voter registration and community organizing—under the auspices of the Southwest Georgia Freedom Project.

In the late 1960s, Sherrod, along with his wife, Shirley Miller Sherrod, a Baker County native whom he married in 1966, helped found New Communities, a farming collective that was, at one point, the largest Black-owned plot of land in the United States. For decades, New Communities was the fulfillment of a dream for the Sherrods, a place where they could work the land and care for others.

But in the 1980s, when a devastating drought afflicted southwest Georgia, they were repeatedly denied relief and the farm was foreclosed on. In asking for a loan, Sherrod heard from White loan officials the same message he'd heard from segregation-

ists decades earlier when trying to vote: "Over my dead body."

Though devastated by the loss of New Communities, the Sherrods kept working faithfully in southwest Georgia. Charles Sherrod had been elected to the Albany City Council in 1976, a post he held until 1990, and also served as a prison chaplain, while Shirley worked for the Federation of Southern Cooperatives before being named the U.S. Department of Agriculture Georgia Director of Rural Development in 2009. Shirley was fired after conservative blogger Andrew Breitbart posted selectively edited, misleading video clips from a speech she gave. The White House and Agriculture Secretary Tom Vilsack apologized to Sherrod two days after her firing.

After seeing her name dragged through the mud, Shirley got better news. She heard about a class-action lawsuit, *Pigford v. Glickman II*, alleging systemic racial discrimination toward Black farmers by the USDA. The Sherrods filed a claim and were awarded a settlement for the wrongful dispossession of New Communities. They used the money to purchase a new farm. It was a bittersweet moment.

And one that reveals how long the Black freedom struggle has been. Charles Sherrod embodied this enduring struggle over the long haul, in all of its breadth and character. From marching in the Albany Movement, being beaten and jailed in Americus, Ga., registering rural folks to vote, founding New Communities, to serving in local politics, Sherrod stayed with the cause of freedom and beloved community until his death.

His story reminds us that the work of racial justice is ongoing, that it occurs in rural spaces as well as urban ones and that it can look like political organizing, preaching, farming or just the ordinary miracle of Black love in America.

CONGRATULATING THE LADY FALCONS ON THEIR STATE CHAMPIONSHIP

HON. BLAINE LUETKEMEYER

OF MISSOURI

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Monday, November 14, 2022

Mr. LUETKEMEYER. Madam Speaker, I rise today to ask my colleagues to join me in congratulating the Blair Oaks Lady Falcons on their victory in the Class 3 Girls Volleyball State Championship.

The Lady Falcons had a stellar season, with a 33–3–1 record. The Lady Falcons should be commended for all their hard work throughout the past year and for bringing home the state championship to their school and community.

Please join me in recognizing The Lady Falcons for a job well done.

RECOGNIZING HOWARD BUFFETT

HON. RODNEY DAVIS

OF ILLINOIS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Monday, November 14, 2022

Mr. RODNEY DAVIS of Illinois. Madam Speaker, I rise today to recognize my friend from Decatur, Illinois, Howard Buffett, and his foundation, The Howard G. Buffett Foundation, for their work to rebuild communities and the agriculture sector in Ukraine in light of Russia's invasion of the country.

Howard has donated millions to help provide food, shelter, and transportation to the citizens of Ukraine. He has also worked with John Deere, also headquartered in Illinois, to provide storage, transportation, and equipment to farmers to bolster agriculture in Ukraine.

Ukraine is one of the top producers and exporters supplying grain and oilseed to countries across the globe. Howard's work not only helps farmers in Ukraine, but it also helps bolster food security and national security across the globe and here at home in the United States. President of Ukraine Volodymyr Zelenskyy awarded Howard with the Order of Yaroslav the Wise of the V degree for his significant merits in strengthening interstate cooperation, supporting the state sovereignty and territorial integrity of Ukraine and a significant contribution to the popularization of the Ukrainian state in the world.

I admire Howard and his willingness to help others in times of crisis throughout his life, whether it's helping to address food insecurity, human trafficking, global conflicts or projects in our backyard. Howard has always been a generous neighbor and friend helping with projects throughout Macon County. I admire his work and dedication to making the world a better place.

I thank Howard for all his work and friendship.

HONORING RICH MAROVICH ON HIS 21 YEARS OF PUBLIC SERVICE

HON. MIKE THOMPSON

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Monday, November 14, 2022

Mr. THOMPSON of California. Madam Speaker, I rise today, along with my colleague, Rep. JOHN GARAMENDI, to honor Rich Marovich for his 21 years of service with the Solano County Water Agency. Through his work as streamkeeper of Putah Creek, Mr. Marovich has shown a ceaseless dedication and passion for protecting and preserving our community's natural resources.

Mr. Marovich is originally from Palo Alto, California, and earned a Bachelor of Arts degree in Plant Science at the University of California, Davis. After college, he worked at the California Department of Pesticide Regulation, where he administered the department's first Endangered Species Program.

After years of drought, the Putah Creek Accord restored the natural flow of the creek; with this restoration, the need for a streamkeeper emerged and Mr. Marovich was a natural choice for the role. Putah Creek's 70-mile-long stream extends from the Cobb Mountains to the Yolo Bypass making it a major fishing and wildlife resource. To maintain the creek and protect its resources, Mr. Marovich was ever diligent as streamkeeper in improving water quality and conserving creek resources. Through his position, he also provided educational resources to the community regarding the creek's importance and collaborated with landowners along the creek on cleanup efforts.

In addition to his work preserving Putah Creek, Mr. Marovich created several environmental projects including the development of plant nurseries, food cultivation efforts, and critical fundraising campaigns for assessment programs related to the creek's condition.

The annual Winters Salmon Festival and the return of Chinook salmon to Putah Creek is a testament to the tireless efforts and unyielding zeal of Mr. Marovich throughout his career. While his service as Putah Creek's streamkeeper will surely be missed, Mr. Marovich's 21 years of service to the conservation of California's water resources has undoubtedly left a legacy that will last for many years to come. We would like to extend our sincere gratitude for Mr. Marovich's dedicated service to the preservation of Putah Creek and wish him and his family my best as he enters retirement.

CONGRATULATING MICHAEL SCHRAGE'S 50TH ANNIVERSARY AT CENTIER BANK

HON. FRANK J. MRVAN

OF INDIANA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Monday, November 14, 2022

Mr. MRVAN. Madam Speaker, it is with great respect and admiration that I take this time to congratulate Mr. Michael Schrage as he celebrates his 50th anniversary at Centier Bank. Under his outstanding leadership, Centier continues to thrive and has been recognized as the largest private, family-owned bank in the state of Indiana.

Michael Schrage, chief executive officer and chairman of the board for Centier Bank, is a truly innovative business leader. Mr. Schrage is the fourth generation of his family to own and operate the bank, which opened its first branch in 1895 as Bank of Whiting. Centier Bank has sustained immense growth throughout the years, and today the organization operates over 60 locations across Indiana.

During Mr. Schrage's tenure, Centier Bank has reached many goals and enjoyed great success, including the development of an award-winning lender division, the creation of a financial literacy program, and a significant investment in the regional economy through the establishment of banking centers in 32 northern Indiana counties. The company was named a top-ranked bank in the state of Indiana by Forbes from 2019 to 2022. Since 2007, Centier Bank has annually been named one of Indiana's best places to work, which is due to Michael's value-based work ethic that fosters a supportive and thoughtful work environment.

In the community, Michael Schrage has also proven himself to be a pillar of the community and a selfless humanitarian. He gives much of his time and efforts to numerous charity organizations including Saint Jude House, the American Red Cross, the YMCA, and the Boy Scouts of America, to name a few. For his dedication to philanthropic endeavors throughout the community of Northwest Indiana and beyond, he is to be highly commended.

Madam Speaker, I ask that you and my other distinguished colleagues join me in honoring Michael Schrage on his 50 years at Centier Bank. For his lifetime of remarkable leadership and his commitment to helping those in need, Michael Schrage is worthy of our gratitude and admiration.

HONORING VICKI COLBERT

HON. BENNIE G. THOMPSON

OF MISSISSIPPI

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Monday, November 14, 2022

Mr. THOMPSON of Mississippi. Madam Speaker, I rise today to honor the community efforts of Vicki Colbert.

For decades, Stewpot Community Services has helped people experiencing homelessness by providing shelter, clothes, and food. Recently, a new face behind the scenes has made a big impact on the community, one meal at a time. Vicki Colbert, known as Mama Vicki, wants every single meal she serves at Stewpot to be her best one yet.

"If I don't eat it and it doesn't taste right, it doesn't come out of this kitchen," she said.

Stewpot serves up to 150 hot meals to those in need, plus another 70 for Meals on Wheels. Colbert is the woman behind it all, but she didn't exactly plan to be there. The non-profit group was suddenly without a chef last fall. Colbert, who is a retired education administrator with a culinary background, just happened to be volunteering that week.

"She had already been here as a volunteer, and I heard about her in the kitchen and heard about her food, so I came just to try it out and found that she made the most delicious mac 'n cheese," said Jill Buckley, executive director at Stewpot Community Services.

It was so good, in fact, that Buckley said they asked her to stay for just one week. Nearly a year later, Colbert couldn't imagine being anywhere else.

"If I wake up every day in my right mind and I'm able to walk and talk, I need to do something grateful with that, so I come to Stewpot," Colbert said. "This is not a job for me, this is a ministry."

It may be considered a soup kitchen, but she's serving much more than your average chicken noodle soup. From Southern-fried catfish to homemade hushpuppies, Colbert is making real homecooked meals out of donated food.

"It requires someone in the kitchen, or some people in the kitchen, who can take whatever is donated and make a meal out of it. That's a skill," Buckley said.

"My sisters and brothers told me the same thing," Colbert said. "Give Vicki some sugar and flour (and) she can make a meal."

That familiar magic touch is how she earned the name Mama Vicki. Handwritten letters from some of the Meals on Wheels recipients are proof of her impact. They say how thankful they are to have her.

"I'm glad that I'm here," Colbert said, "I know it had to be a calling that I had to do." I love these people, I really do."

Madam Speaker, I ask my colleagues to join me in recognizing Vicki Colbert for her outstanding service to her community.

RECOGNIZING THE HONORABLE GUSTAVO ANTONIO GELPÍ, JR.

HON. JENNIFFER GONZÁLEZ-COLÓN

OF PUERTO RICO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Monday, November 14, 2022

Miss GONZÁLEZ-COLÓN. Madam Speaker, on May 12, 2021, President Biden nominated

the Hon. Gustavo Antonio Gelpí, Jr. to be a United States Circuit Judge in the United States Court of Appeals for the First Circuit, to the seat left vacant by the late Judge Juan R. Torruella. On October 18, 2021, Judge Gelpí was confirmed by the Senate and received his judicial commission on October 19, 2021. I was honored to support his nomination.

The U.S. Circuit Court for the First Circuit hears appeals from the U.S. District Courts of Maine, Massachusetts, New Hampshire, Puerto Rico, and Rhode Island. A voice for Puerto Rico—a civil law jurisdiction unlike the remaining common law jurisdictions under the Circuit's purview—is necessary for the fair and impartial application of the law. However, although the population of Puerto Rico is more than double that of each of the other districts in the circuit except for Massachusetts, Judge Gelpí is only the second judge of Hispanic origin and only the second judge from Puerto Rico ever to serve in that Court since it was established by Congress in 1891. I am confident that Judge Gelpí will give Puerto Rico the loud and booming voice in that Court that has been silent since Judge Torruella's passing.

Judge Gelpí served in the United States District Court for the District of Puerto Rico for 20 years, first as a magistrate judge and then as district judge. During this time, he gained a reputation for being stern and serious, but patient and courteous; for having an even temper and a sense of humor; for having common sense and an understanding of the human condition; for being open to consider new legal theories but always following the law.

As he goes on to take his seat in the First Circuit, I would like to remind him of Justice Sandra O'Connor's admonition to judges: "Be independent, be fair, venture to be wise."

"Be independent". Decide matters that come before you impartially, on the basis of facts, in accordance with the law, and without regards to outside influence, self-interest, prejudice, or favoritism.

"Be fair". Stay true to the rule that all persons are equal before the eyes of the law. Make sure that judicial proceedings are conducted fairly and that the rights of the parties are respected. Remember that the appearance of fairness and impartiality is almost as important as the reality of it.

"Venture to be wise." Be humble and recognize that judges do not have monopoly on wisdom and that they will not get it right every time. Approach each case with an open mind and a willingness to learn. Be restrained in your decisions. Seek counsel from your fellow judges.

I thank Judge Gelpí for his years of exemplary service to the people of Puerto Rico and I am certain that, in this new stage of his career, he will continue to serve the people of Puerto Rico with outstanding merit.

I would also like to acknowledge my friend, Congresswoman NYDIA VELÁZQUEZ, who was an invaluable ally in raising bipartisan support for Judge Gelpí's appointment. Because we worked together for the benefit of Puerto Rico, irrespective of party lines, we were able to secure the nomination and confirmation of the most qualified candidate for the job.

RECOGNIZING WHEATFIELD COMMONS AS THE CHAMBER OF COMMERCE OF TONAWANDAS' NON-PROFIT OF THE YEAR

HON. BRIAN HIGGINS

OF NEW YORK

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Monday, November 14, 2022

Mr. HIGGINS of New York. Madam Speaker, today I would like to honor and recognize Wheatfield Commons, a senior living community providing assisted living and memory care to countless families in Western New York. Since 1958, residents of Erie and Niagara County have been fortunate to receive the family-oriented services of this non-profit.

Wheatfield Commons is nestled in a park-like suburban setting with inviting grounds and courtyards. In warmer weather, residents enjoy taking in the sights from a large covered front porch. Residents are always encouraged to engage with others, and at a place like Wheatfield Commons, there are so many welcoming areas, like the beautifully decorated dining rooms and cozy fireplaces. All of this is a concerted effort to create an accommodating and enriching atmosphere where residents receive the highest quality services and care.

Senior living communities ought to offer our elderly a healthy and dynamic way of living. Undoubtedly, Wheatfield Commons offers a personal approach to delivering support and services while encouraging family members to be actively involved in the care of their loved ones. Without this mission, you can imagine the potential lack of support and interpersonal connections of senior residents and their families. Luckily, Wheatfield Commons delivers for its residents.

Organizations like Wheatfield Commons do not receive an appropriate amount of praise and attention for their critical efforts, so I am pleased that their hard work can be recognized in this way. Our communities are best served when our seniors are receiving proper care and attention.

Madam Speaker, I am honored to recognize the irreplaceable Wheatfield Commons and their devoted staff. I would like to congratulate them on this well-deserved achievement.

RECOGNIZING THE 20TH ANNIVERSARY OF THE HISTORIC SAM SHORTLINE EXCURSION TRAIN

HON. SANFORD D. BISHOP, JR.

OF GEORGIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Monday, November 14, 2022

Mr. BISHOP of Georgia. Madam Speaker, I rise today to recognize the Historic Savannah, Americus, & Montgomery (SAM) Shortline Excursion Train on the 20th anniversary of its first public run on October 26, 2002.

While the current SAM Shortline Excursion Train had its maiden voyage only twenty years ago, its ancestor and namesake, the Savannah, Americus, & Montgomery (SAM) Railroad Company, was founded during the 1880s by Americus attorney and banker, Colonel Samuel Hugh Hawkins. The Americus region saw its first population and construction booms with the arrival of Southwestern Railroad in the early 1850s. Following the American Civil

War, the people of southwest Georgia saw the railroad as a bright new opportunity for economic development and prosperity. But Southwestern and its lessee, the Central Railroad & Banking Company of Georgia, held a monopoly on the railroads and many in Americus began to feel the effects of exorbitant and discriminatory rates, thus contributing to a decline in local trade. When surrounding cities began proposing new rail lines to bypass Americus, Colonel Hawkins led the charge to construct new lines that would pass directly through the city, leading local investors to organize the Americus, Preston & Lumpkin Railroad (AP&L) in 1884 to ensure that Americus would continue to dominate the region's trade and continue to grow into the Twentieth Century. In 1888, Hawkins and his associates decided to extend the AP&L both east and west to create a direct route between Montgomery, Alabama, and Savannah. Later that year, the 265-mile project would be renamed as the Savannah, Americus, Montgomery Railway, known simply as "The SAM."

Before the SAM's mainline was constructed through the city, the lands surrounding Americus in Sumter County were largely undeveloped and sparsely populated. Following the boom in trade and wealth brought by the SAM, several new towns were founded throughout the region, including Richland, Cordele, Vidalia, and Lyons among others. The first new community, however, was created in Sumter County a few miles west of Americus near an older community called the Plains of Dura. Once SAM's main rail line approached the Plains of Dura community, residents of surrounding settlements began moving closer to the railroad and eventually chartered the town of Plains—the renowned home of famous Georgia peanut farmer and our 39th President, Jimmy Carter. Once fully developed, SAM Railway became the lifeblood of the city of Americus and spurred a second construction and population boom that would reshape the city as a powerful economic nexus in the region. During this period, the city saw the founding of several vital local businesses, such as the Americus Guano Company, the Americus Oil Company, the Americus Illuminating and Power Company, the Americus Construction Company, the Americus Grocery Company, as well as the town's crowning achievement—the Windsor Hotel.

Despite its transformational success, SAM was not immune from the economic struggles of the era, and in 1893, amid a financial panic, Colonel Hawkins and his associates were forced to sell their beloved SAM Railway Company to John Skelton of Richmond, Virginia who would reorganize the company as the Georgia and Alabama Railway in 1895. Samuel Hawkins went on to lose nearly \$1 million of his own money in an unsuccessful attempt to keep the railroad under local control. Nevertheless, the railroad he initially founded proved vital to the southwest Georgia community as it provided jobs, trade, freight transportation, as well as an economic engine for the budding towns and cities across southwest Georgia and Alabama.

At the start of the Twenty-first Century, local residents of the southwest Georgia region developed plans to revive the former SAM Railway as a passenger excursion route. By 2002, the excursion founders had recovered and refurbished several state-owned vintage railcars to seat up to eighty people. They rebranded

the railway as the Historic SAM Shortline Railroad to honor the rich history that shaped the region. The reborn SAM Shortline Excursion Train follows the legendary route from Cordele to Plains and gives riders scenic views of cotton fields, pecan groves, and peanut farms while riding in climate-controlled, train cars to visit sites such as the Georgia Rural Telephone Museum, Historic Downtown Americus, President Jimmy Carter's hometown of Plains and his boyhood home and farm in Archery, Georgia.

Being Georgia's only rolling state park, the excursion train hosted an impressive passenger load in 2021, even despite the COVID-19 pandemic. That year alone, the SAM Shortline Excursion Train boarded 17,000 passengers who were able to experience the fascinating history of President Carter's several political campaigns and life, as well as a glimpse of rural life at the turn of the Twentieth Century. The SAM Shortline also offers special rides throughout the year, including Halloween trick-or-treat trains, Christmas trains, dinner trains, and fundraisers, marking it a community treasure to be enjoyed by all throughout the year. The success and immense popularity of the excursion train resulted in an impressive economic impact of \$2,697,496.00 across Sumter and Crisp Counties in 2021.

Madam Speaker, I ask my colleagues to join my wife, Vivian; and me, along with the more than 730,000 people of the Second Congressional District, in recognizing the Historic SAM Shortline Railroad for twenty wonderful years of bringing people closer to southwest Georgia's beautiful landscape and rich history.

CONGRATULATING THE LADY
COMETS ON THEIR STATE CHAMPIONSHIP

HON. BLAINE LUETKEMEYER

OF MISSOURI

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Monday, November 14, 2022

Mr. LUETKEMEYER. Madam Speaker, I rise today to ask my colleagues to join me in congratulating the Fatima Lady Comets on their victory in the Class 3 Softball State Championship.

These young women had a stellar season, ranked number 1 with a 33-3 record. In their championship game they overcame a 10-run deficit to claim their title. The Lady Comets should be commended for all their hard work throughout the past year and for bringing home the state championship to their school and community.

Please join me in recognizing the Lady Comets for a job well done.

LIFE AND LEGACY OF MONSIGNOR
MICHAEL DOYLE

HON. DONALD NORCROSS

OF NEW JERSEY

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Monday, November 14, 2022

Mr. NORCROSS. Madam Speaker, Monsignor Michael Doyle was originally born in County Longford, Ireland and raised on a farm in Rosduff. He immigrated to the United

States of America in 1959 after becoming ordained into the priesthood in Wexford, Ireland and dedicated his life to the pursuit of helping others and embodied the principals of transformational love.

Upon his arrival as a member of the Diocese of Camden, Monsignor Doyle taught within the high school and had a hand in the success of fellow Camden city parishes such as St. Joseph's, St. George, and St. Joan of Arc. A graduate of Villanova University, Monsignor Doyle earned a master's degree in Education in 1962 and received an honorary doctorate in Humanities from his alma mater in 2007. He was installed as a priest in 1974 and was chosen and appointed as pastor of Sacred Heart Parish where he continued to serve for over fifty years.

Monsignor Michael Doyle was also a celebrated poet, pacifist, and provocateur. In 1971, he was a member of the Camden 28, a group of anti-Vietnam War activists who plotted to raid the Camden draft board office until the plan was revealed to the authorities. Doyle and three other Catholic priests were eventually acquitted of their charges. In addition, Doyle helped plant crosses memorializing Camden City's murder victims in front of Camden City Hall when he felt more could be done to stem rampant violence. His activism extends beyond nonviolence, Monsignor Michael Doyle is a champion of education, improved medical care, community beautification, and affordable housing.

Monsignor Doyle has been profiled by media outlets and documentaries for his work in the southern part of the City of Camden throughout the decades. As a literary force, Monsignor Doyle inspired residents both in and outside of the City of Camden through his sermons, poetry, and desire to improve the social justice landscape until retiring from active ministry in 2020.

Following his service through Sacred Heart Parish and the Camden Diocese, Monsignor Michael Doyle remained steadfast in his efforts to better the lives of those around him. He could be found actively writing letters to parishioners in efforts to fundraise for local school children.

Madam Speaker, I ask you to join me in honoring the life and legacy of Monsignor Michael Doyle and his lifelong commitment as a dedicated humanitarian and advocate for peace within the community.

HONORING REV. CALVIN EARL
HAWKINS

HON. BENNIE G. THOMPSON

OF MISSISSIPPI

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Monday, November 14, 2022

Mr. THOMPSON of Mississippi. Madam Speaker, I rise today to honor a man of many talents, Rev. Calvin Earl Hawkins. Rev. Hawkins is compassionate, and a dedicated public servant devoted to the betterment of the community and success of others.

Rev. Hawkins was born on September 25, 1972, in Water Valley, Mississippi, to the parents of the late John and Earline Wright Hawkins. As the last child of nine children, Calvin graduated high school then continued his education at Northeast Mississippi Community College in Booneville, Mississippi, then on to

Mississippi State University, in Starkville, Mississippi. While at Mississippi State University, Rev. Hawkins obtained a Bachelor of Science degree in Educational Psychology, Education, and with a focus in Individual and Family Studies.

Over the years, Rev. Hawkins has been intricately involved within the community and has demonstrated immense dedication to the families and children throughout the state of Mississippi. Rev. Hawkins is a lifeline for many students in Mississippi and has started his 28th year as an educator. Rev. Hawkins is very supportive in the field of education. He is an educator at heart. His work experience includes but is not limited to an Educational/Disability Specialist, Center Administrator, and Regional Administrator for Mississippi Action for Progress, Inc.

As a Regional Administrator for Head Start, Rev. Hawkins served the counties of Yalobusha, Chickasaw and Calhoun City. He was able to provide services for an infinite number of children who needed a head start in life. Rev. Hawkins currently serves as the Coordinator for Student Services for the Coffeeville School District. Within his work career, Rev. Hawkins has worked with students between the ages of 3 years old to post-secondary status. He has consistently been an advisor and vessel for students by teaching them problem-solving and coping skills while simultaneously verbalizing to them to never give up. It has always been common practice for Rev. Hawkins to rally and encourage students with a Pep talk letting them know, "What God has for you is for you" and always providing individuals with the assurance of whatever comes their way, they can make it.

In 2011, Rev. Hawkins accepted the calling into the ministry. He is a licensed and ordained pastor. Rev. Hawkins began pastoring his first church in 2006 as the Senior Pastor of United Missionary Baptist Church in Coffeeville, Mississippi.

Rev. Hawkins serves his community in the following capacities: President of the Blackmur Library, member of the 100 Black Men of Grenada County, Mississippi, Congress President of the Mt. Moriah District Association, National Library Association, and a member of the Phi Beta Sigma Fraternity Inc. Rev. Hawkins past membership includes the Rotary club and Water Valley Main Street Association. He is the Founder of the "Increase Your Knowledge Group, LLC," a non-profit organization to increase the knowledge of potential information within the community. In 2005, Rev. Hawkins was appointed by the Yalobusha County Sheriff and Board of Supervisor as the Chaplain for the Yalobusha County Detention Center.

Rev. Hawkins is now a published author of the book titled, *Under the Dusty Sands*. This book is an African American history book highlighting Yalobusha County, Mississippi from 1870 to 1970. Rev. Hawkins gathered history to recognize the African American citizen that paved the way in Yalobusha County. He is preparing to publish his second book, which will include the history of the oldest African American school in Yalobusha County entitled "Dear Ole Davidson". In 2022, Rev. Hawkins was recognized as an African American historian in Yalobusha County.

Madam Speaker, I ask my colleagues to join me in recognizing Rev. Calvin Earl Hawkins for his dedication and passion for his community and the State of Mississippi.

HONORING WILLIAM "BILL"
COTTER

HON. STEVEN M. PALAZZO

OF MISSISSIPPI

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Monday, November 14, 2022

Mr. PALAZZO. Madam Speaker, today I recognize William "Bill" Cotter, who will retire this year after 23 years of service to the economic development authority for Hancock County, Mississippi—home to Port Bienville, Stennis International Airport, and NASA's Stennis Space Center.

Bill has served with the Port and Harbor Commission for over two decades in various roles, including Stennis International Airport Director, agency chief operations officer, and Chief Executive Officer since 2021.

During his tenure as airport director, Cotter helped guide Stennis Airport's recovery from Hurricane Katrina and coordinated the airfield activities during the BP Deepwater Horizon response. Since 2005, he has overseen nearly \$40 million in capital improvements at the airport, including the construction of the air traffic control tower, aircraft hangars, and the terminal building. As COO, Port Bienville Industrial Park's existing docks were refurbished and improved, and construction began on a new 600-foot dock, which will be completed later this year.

Among other accomplishments, Cotter was instrumental in attracting a line of companies that resulted in Tyonek Service Group's operation in Hancock County. This Department of Defense contractor performs maintenance, repair, and overhaul operations for military aircraft. It is one of 30 companies at Port Bienville and the Stennis International Airport that together employ nearly 1,000 people.

Upon retirement after a lifelong career in aviation and economic development, he and his wife, Suzanne Corso, plan on spending time with their three children William "Billy", Melissa "Mimi" and Nicholas "Nick," and their seven grandchildren, Mera, Gencie, Graysion, William, Mia, Micah, and Kiara.

Bill has continuously gone above and beyond to leave things better than he found them. Please join me in thanking him for his outstanding accomplishments and dedication to making Hancock County one of Mississippi's most treasured counties. On behalf of South Mississippi, we wish you and Suzanne a long and healthy retirement.

CONGRATULATING THE ROCK ISLAND PUBLIC LIBRARY ON 150 YEARS OF ENRICHING AND CONNECTING THE CITY OF ROCK ISLAND

HON. CHERI BUSTOS

OF ILLINOIS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Monday, November 14, 2022

Mrs. BUSTOS. Madam Speaker, I rise today to honor the Rock Island Public Library on its 150th year of serving residents of Rock Island, Illinois, and the Quad-Cities region.

Founded on November 25, 1872, upon the passage of the Illinois Library Act, the Rock Island Public Library has been a core institution and forum for learning for all to utilize and

enjoy. This crucial public resource prides itself on its longevity and positive impact on its surroundings, and it has always helped to connect residents to information, services, events and each other. The renewed commitment of the Rock Island Public Library to offer equitable access to facilities and vibrant spaces where all are welcome, as well as a mandate to foster lifelong learning and education, aids in driving innovation across our region. It is a valuable member of Illinois' exemplary public library system.

It is because of vital pillars of the community, such as the Rock Island Public Library, that I am especially proud to represent Illinois' 17th Congressional District. Madam Speaker, I would like to again, formally recognize the Rock Island Public Library on its 150th anniversary.

CONGRATULATING THE BULLDOGS
ON THEIR STATE CHAMPIONSHIP

HON. BLAINE LUETKEMEYER

OF MISSOURI

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Monday, November 14, 2022

Mr. LUETKEMEYER. Madam Speaker, I rise today to ask my colleagues to join me in congratulating the Ft. Zumwalt South Bulldogs on their victory in the Class 3 Girls Soccer State Championship.

The Bulldogs took home their second consecutive Class 3 title. The Bulldogs should be commended for all their hard work throughout the past year and for bringing home the state championship to their school and community.

Please join me in recognizing the Bulldogs for a job well done.

HONORING COLONEL (RET) ROY
GEORGE PLUMMER

HON. SANFORD D. BISHOP, JR.

OF GEORGIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Monday, November 14, 2022

Mr. BISHOP of Georgia. Madam Speaker, it is with a heavy heart and solemn remembrance that I rise today to honor the life and legacy of a loving husband, dedicated father, distinguished Army Chaplain, humble pastor, veterans advocate, tireless community servant and my friend of longstanding, Colonel (Ret) Roy George Plummer. Sadly, Colonel Plummer transitioned from labor to reward on Sunday, October 23, 2022. A celebration of his life was held on Thursday, November 3, 2022 at the Columbus, Georgia Civic Center.

Roy George Plummer was born on February 6, 1938 in Saint Andrew Parish, Jamaica in the West Indies to the late Wilfred Plummer and Lucille Annita Plummer. He was reared by his grandmother, "Mama", in May Pen, Jamaica, attended school there and became a lightweight boxer in his youth before traveling to England and then to the United States. He attended Azusa Pacific University in California where he studied pre-law, but during his undergraduate studies he heard the Lord's call to Christian ministry which took him to the Phillips School of Theology in Atlanta, Georgia where he earned a Master of Divinity in 1969.

On January 4, 1971 Roy joined the United States Army as a Chaplain where for 23 years

he served the spiritual and pastoral needs of countless United States Army military and civilian personnel and their families, including at Atterberry Chapel in Frankfurt, Germany and Sightseeing Road Chapel at Fort Benning, Georgia. He attended and completed Command and General Staff College and the U.S. Army War College. In 1994 he completed his active duty career as Chief of Chaplains and Post Command Chaplain at Fort Benning, retiring at the rank of Colonel.

Also in 1994, always "pressing toward the mark for the prize of the high calling of God in Christ Jesus", Colonel Plummer founded and became Senior Pastor and CEO of Faith Tabernacle Community Church, an active and growing congregation in Southeast Columbus.

Then, in 1998 while maintaining his pastoral ministry, he became Director of Army Instruction for the Muscogee County School District JROTC where he was responsible for 8 high school JROTC programs and 4 other County JROTC programs. He worked tirelessly to create a formidable program and under his leadership it grew from 400 to 1200 cadets and the Muscogee County School District JROTC program earned GHSA State Rifle Championships, State level awards in Drill Team and Raider competitions and honorable recognition in the annual JROTC Academic Bowl.

Known for his eloquent golden baritone voice with a pronounced British accent, Colonel Plummer was prolific in his community service. He was Chaplain for Rotary International District 6900; served on the boards of St. Francis Hospital Foundation; Columbus Hospice; United Way of the Chattahoochee Valley; Boy Scouts of America and the Greater Columbus Chamber of Commerce. He served as Assistant Professor in the Department of Graduate Studies at Columbus State University, holding Masters degrees in Human Relations and Group Process; Guidance and Counseling; Pastoral Care and a Doctorate of Divinity.

Colonel Plummer's solid educational background, coupled with his compassion for "the least of these" inspired him to establish the Plummer Home for homeless and disenfranchised military veterans, providing support and resources to veterans who encountered severe challenges in their transition from military to civilian life. His legacy in the fight to eradicate homelessness among veterans and for expansion of veterans benefits will long be remembered.

Colonel Roy G. Plummer achieved countless successes in his life. But none would have been possible without the grace of God and the love and support of his Wife, Kenyetta, his 4 daughters and his 7 grandchildren.

On a personal note, Roy was my friend. He always supported and encouraged me with wise counsel and sage advice. His prayers were genuine. His friendship was golden. He will be sorely missed, but the world is better because of him.

Madam Speaker, I ask that my colleagues in the House of Representatives join my wife, Vivian and me, along with the more than 730,000 people of the 2nd District in honoring and celebrating the life and legacy of Colonel (Ret) Roy George Plummer for his service to God, his Country and humanity and in extending our deepest condolences to his family,

friends and all who mourn his loss. May they be consoled and comforted by their faith and the Holy Spirit in the days, weeks and months ahead.

HONORING ST. MARY CATHOLIC CHURCH

HON. BENNIE G. THOMPSON

OF MISSISSIPPI

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Monday, November 14, 2022

Mr. THOMPSON of Mississippi. Madam Speaker, I rise today to honor a staple of the City of Vicksburg and Warren County community, St. Mary Catholic Church. St. Mary Catholic Church and its members have shown what can be done through hard work, dedication, and a desire to serve the Vicksburg/Warren community.

For 116 years, St. Mary Catholic Church has been a source of spiritual guidance and education for African American Catholics in Vicksburg and Warren County. Its importance to the community will be remembered on Oct. 16th with a ceremony dedicating two historic markers—one for the church and another for the elementary and high school. St. Mary's parish was founded in 1906 by the Rev. Aloysius Heick. The first church was on Holly Street. The Sisters of Mercy provided the altar for the first church, the candlesticks, and the priest's vestments; and the priests at St. Paul Catholic Church provided a place for Heick to stay until St. Mary's moved to its present location at Main and Second North streets later in 1906, which is when an elementary and high school was also started. The present church was built in 1923.

The congregation at St. Paul's collected \$279.80 that they donated to Heick to buy the land, and philanthropist Catherine Drexel, who was later canonized as a saint, provided half of the money necessary to get the property.

A two-story Greek revival building was built in 1908 and was later used for the high school. The nuns who taught the children at St. Mary's were members of the Sisters of the Holy Spirit.

The elementary school closed in 1970, and the high school closed in 1964. When the schools closed the children who wanted to continue attending Catholic school had to go to Yazoo City.

Madam Speaker, I ask my colleagues to join me in recognizing St. Mary Catholic Church and its members for their passion and dedication to offer the spiritual and educational needs of the City of Vicksburg community.

RECOGNIZING CAROL TALLICHET AS THE CHAMBER OF COMMERCE OF TONAWANDAS' CITIZEN OF THE YEAR

HON. BRIAN HIGGINS

OF NEW YORK

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Monday, November 14, 2022

Mr. HIGGINS of New York. Madam Speaker, today I would like to recognize Carol Tallichet as the Chamber of Commerce of Tonawandas' Citizen of the Year. Carol is not only a distinct local business owner, but a dedicated leader in the Buffalo community.

As a North Tonawanda native, Carol has made a lasting impact on her hometown through her community service and local outreach efforts. Her recent membership into the Erie-Niagara Sunrise Exchange Club has included involvement in campaigns such as "Give a Kid a Hug to Hold," which provides pillows to abused children. Carol's contributions also extend to the Meals on Wheels non-profit where she selflessly printed thank you gifts for volunteers and clients of the organization.

In addition to her community service efforts, Carol also serves 22 communities across New York and Florida through the restaurants she owns with her husband. Her entrepreneurial efforts are worth celebrating, as her local Tonawanda restaurant, Lumberjack's, celebrates its tenth anniversary. These family-owned restaurants are staffed by local students and teachers, two groups for which Carol continues to give back. Bottle returns from her local restaurants are donated to Cardinal O'Hara High School in Tonawanda, New York. Not only does this donation expand the arts budget at this high school, but it also provides enough money for their music department to purchase new instruments they otherwise could not afford.

Today, I ask that members of the Chamber of Commerce of Tonawanda and citizens, alike, join me in expressing our gratitude for Carol Tallichet and her unwavering commitment to her community. Her continual efforts are not only inspiring to the Buffalo community, but to all entrepreneurs and young individuals. Carol is undoubtedly deserving of the Citizen of the Year award, and I thank her for her commitment to the Western New York region.

HONORING CABARRUS COUNTY COMMISSIONER DIANE HONEYCUTT FOR EXCEPTIONAL SERVICE AND LEADERSHIP

HON. RICHARD HUDSON

OF NORTH CAROLINA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Monday, November 14, 2022

Mr. HUDSON. Madam Speaker, I rise today to honor Cabarrus County Commissioner Diane Honeycutt for her many years of service to our community.

Commissioner Honeycutt has long provided exemplary leadership and initiative as an active member of our community. In addition to serving on the Cabarrus County Board of Commissions since 2014, she has held many other distinguished positions, including the prominent roles of former Chair of the Cabarrus County Chamber of Commerce in 2001 and former President of the Concord Rotary Club in 2004. On the Board of Commissioners, Commissioner Honeycutt served as Vice Chair from 2016 to 2021. She currently serves on the Department of Health of Human Services Committee, the Senior Advisory Council, and the Emergency Management Committee. On account of her dedicated public service and success as a business leader in our community, Commissioner Honeycutt has received numerous awards and accolades. Perhaps most impressively, she was presented the Distinguished Rotarian of the Year award in 2001, the Cabarrus Chamber

Small Business of the Year award in 2017, and the Cabarrus Chamber Volunteer Business of the Year award in 2018.

Commissioner Honeycutt will retire from her current position on the Cabarrus County Board of Commissioners at the end of the year. Over the course of her career, she has demonstrated the highest level of commitment to her community through her hard work and leadership. She stands as an exemplary figure for all in public service to emulate, and I join our entire community in gratitude as we honor her extraordinary career.

Madam Speaker, please join me today in honoring Commissioner Diane Honeycutt for her career of exemplary servitude to her community.

HONORING THE 2022 MARION TECHNICAL COLLEGE ALUMNI HALL OF FAME INDUCTEES

HON. JIM JORDAN

OF OHIO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Monday, November 14, 2022

Mr. JORDAN. Madam Speaker, Marion Technical College in Marion, Ohio, will hold a ceremony on Thursday, November 17, to mark the induction of its 2022 Alumni Hall of Fame class. I am honored to commend to the House this year's inductees:

Tammi Cowell, MTC Class of 1991, Treasurer and Chief Financial Officer at Tri-Rivers Career Center.

John "Tom" Gleespen, MTC Class of 1975, President of Gleespen Engineering and Surveying.

Sue Jacob, MTC Class of 1981, retired River Valley School District educator.

Darl Snyder, MTC Class of 1983, Territory Manager for 2J Supply Company.

Selection for the Hall of Fame is a high honor accorded to only a small number of alumni each year. To be considered, alumni must demonstrate excellence in their respective professions and set a positive example for current and future MTC students.

On behalf of the people of Ohio's Fourth Congressional District, I am pleased to join in the accolades for these four distinguished alumni as they are inducted into the Marion Technical College Alumni Hall of Fame.

RETIREMENT OF MR. RAYMOND M. POCINO

HON. DONALD NORCROSS

OF NEW JERSEY

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Monday, November 14, 2022

Mr. NORCROSS. Madam Speaker, on November 9, 2022, family, friends, and colleagues gathered at the Forsgate Country Club in Monroe Township, New Jersey to celebrate and recognize the retirement of Raymond M. Pocino from the Laborers' International Union of North America.

In 1956, Raymond M. Pocino began his sixty-eight-year career as a general laborer. He has been steadfast in support of workers by developing innovative programs that support both members and their employers. Raymond M. Pocino has become a vital resource

to industry leaders, elected officials and the business community by utilizing his rich experience and knowledge of issues involving economic development to create opportunities that benefit all.

He has received several honors including the Philip Randolph Institute's Labor Award, the Alliance for Action's coveted Eagle Award for Leadership, Construction Man of the Year by the Building Contractors Association of New Jersey, Labor Leader of the Year by American ORT, New York City Chapter, as well as Labor Leader Honoree by the Newark Catholic Archdiocese.

Throughout his career Mr. Pocino served as a member of several boards including Choose New Jersey, where he consistently advocated for New Jersey as an investment location, while also serving as a member of the board for both the New York Building Congress, the New Jersey Alliance for Action, and Commissioner to the Port Authority of New York and New Jersey. As well, he's served as a trustee of the Laborers-Employers Cooperation and Education Trust, and the Laborers Health and Safety Trust.

We honor Mr. Raymond M. Pocino's commitment to workers and his service of five terms as Vice President and Eastern Regional Manager of the Laborers' International Union of North America.

Madam Speaker, I ask you to join me in celebrating the career of Raymond M. Pocino and extend the greatest appreciation for his lifetime of service to organized labor.

HONORING THE LIFE AND SERVICE OF ROBERT L. GRAYSON

HON. BENNIE G. THOMPSON

OF MISSISSIPPI

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Monday, November 14, 2022

Mr. THOMPSON of Mississippi. Madam Speaker, I rise today to honor a tenacious and self-motivated leader, Robert L. Grayson. Robert has been a champion of service and dedication to the great state of Mississippi and his community.

Robert L. Grayson, of Tutwiler, born on May 10, 1941, is remembered as a trailblazer. He graduated from West District High School in Tallahatchie County. He enlisted in the U.S. Army, served in Vietnam and 8 years in the Army Reserve. He was a U.S. Army veteran of the Vietnam War and a recipient of the Bronze, Silver Star, and the Purple Heart.

A three-decade employee with the Mississippi Department of Corrections at Parchman, MS, Mr. Grayson successfully entered the political arena in 1989 when he defeated the incumbent Ward 1 alderman in Tutwiler. He was reelected to that position in 1993. After 7 years as alderman, during which time he was elected vice mayor by his peers, in 1996 Mr. Grayson resigned to compete in a June special election for mayor. He received 53 percent of the vote in a three-man field to earn an historic first-ballot victory. As the first African American chief executive of Tutwiler, Mr. Grayson completed the remaining year of the former mayor's term, was reelected, and went on to serve 3 full terms, ending in 2009.

Mr. Grayson dedicated his life to public service, serving in multiple positions—vice chairman of the Tallahatchie Housing Board,

Council Board of Alderman of Tutwiler, Aaron E. Henry Health Center Board, and the National Conference of Black Mayors. Mr. Grayson was a founding member of the Emmett Till Memorial Commission (ETMC) of Tallahatchie County and one of the first co-chairs of that organization. In October 2007, he and fellow ETMC co-chair Betty Pearson read the "Resolution of Regret" to family members of Emmett Till during the dedication of a historical marker on the grounds of the Tallahatchie County Courthouse in Sumner.

Madam Speaker, I ask my colleagues to join me in honoring the life, legacy, and service of Robert L. Grayson for his passion and dedication to serving the Mississippi Delta and his desire to make a difference in the community, state and Nation.

RECOGNIZING LAWRENCE BACKLAS ON HIS EXCEPTIONAL COMMITMENT TO BCTGM LOCAL 36G

HON. BRIAN HIGGINS

OF NEW YORK

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Monday, November 14, 2022

Mr. HIGGINS of New York. Madam Speaker, I rise today to honor Lawrence Backlas. Larry has long been a steadfast supporter of unions and labor management, and he dedicated 38 years to Milkbone Bakery and the 36G Union. I am pleased to honor a man who dedicated so much of his life to improving the Western New York workforce.

Hired in 1970, Larry began his career in packaging. This included packing and transporting goods to local bakeshops for consumers to purchase. During this time, he was a part of the safety committee ensuring that all employees were cared for and protected when they came to work. He also served on the production B&R committee.

Ultimately, it was Larry's hard work and commitment to Milkbone Bakery that allowed him to progress in his career. He soon became the steward at the bakeshop before his promotion to head shop steward for the entire bakery. In this position, he was also the lead force behind the union's training committee from 1997 to 1998. Larry would go on to become the Financial Secretary and Vice President of the General Executive Board, and he took on the role of union negotiator for many critical deals in the early 2000s.

While Larry may have retired in June of 2009, he never lost his spirit and advocacy for the BCTGM Union. Today we are honoring Larry for paying 50 years of union dues—a full 13 years more than the requirement.

Since retirement, Larry has had more time to spend with his wife (and high school sweetheart), Patricia. The two are now into their 48th year of marriage. Him and his son, Lawrence, Jr., continue to share their love of martial arts. And undoubtedly, nothing will stop Larry from enjoying the outdoors, fishing, and hunting for many years to come.

I am honored to join the BCTGM Local 36G in recognizing and congratulating Lawrence Backlas on his storied career with Milkbone Bakery and his dedication to organized labor.

RECOGNIZING THE HONORABLE J. KEVIN CHASON

HON. SANFORD D. BISHOP, JR.

OF GEORGIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Monday, November 14, 2022

Mr. BISHOP of Georgia. Madam Speaker, I rise today to recognize a distinguished jurist who has served as the Chief Superior Court Judge of the South Georgia Judicial Circuit for the past fourteen years, The Honorable J. Kevin Chason. His retirement as Chief Judge for the South Georgia Judicial Circuit was celebrated on October 20, 2022, at five p.m. at the United National Bank in Cairo, Georgia.

The Honorable J. Kevin Chason was born on August 15, 1962, in Grady County, Georgia, to the union of the late Judge Willard H. Chason and Carolyn H. Chason. Judge Chason began his educational journey at Georgia Southwestern College (now university) earning a Bachelor of Science Degree in 1984. He interned with the Georgia Supreme Court in the summer of 1985. In 1987, he would follow in his father's footsteps by earning his Juris Doctorate from the Mercer University School of Law. He would be admitted to the Superior Courts of Georgia on July 3, 1987.

After being admitted to the Superior Courts of Georgia, Kevin continued to pursue servant leadership within the legal profession as a practicing attorney before serving as Solicitor General for the State Court of Grady County from 1997 through 2008. In 2008 he ran for and was elected to the Superior Court for the South Georgia Circuit. Throughout his lifetime, Judge Chason has been revered as a steadfast mentor and has had a positive impact on his community. His stellar career on the bench has always been modeled by the motto of our great state—"Wisdom, Justice, and Moderation."

Because of his adherence to these principles, in 2017, he was appointed as Chief Judge of The South Georgia Judicial Circuit.

He also leads by example outside of the courtroom serving on the Board of Directors for the Grady Chapter of the American Heart Association, and a member of the Bainbridge College Foundation. Judge Chason also served as President and a member of the Board of Directors of Cairo Rotary Club, the Cairo and Grady County Chamber of Commerce and the American Heart Association. A man of faith, Judge Chason also serves as a member of the Administrative Board of the First United Methodist Church of Cairo.

It is because of Judge Chason's commitment to his craft and the betterment of his community that he has been recognized with numerous awards and distinctions to include the 1995 Grady County Young Professional of the Year and best judge in Grady County from 2018 through 2022 as selected by the readers of the Cairo Messenger. A Visionary leader, he was one of the founders of the United National Bank in Cairo, Georgia.

Former Congresswoman Shirley Chisolm once said that "Service is the rent that we pay for the space that we occupy here on this earth." Judge Chason has paid his rent many times over and continues to give back to the community that molded and shaped him.

Judge Chason has served countless people and accomplished many things throughout his

life, but none of these could have been possible without his faith, the love and support of his wife, Mary, and their two children—Sarah, a graduate of Mercer University Medical School and resident doctor in Savannah, Georgia and Jonathan, who received his Juris Doctorate from the University of Georgia and is a successful law clerk at the Georgia State-wide Business Court, following in his father's and grandfather's footsteps.

Madam Speaker, I ask my colleagues to join my wife, Vivian; and me, along with the more than 730,000 people of the Second Congressional District, in extending our sincerest appreciation and best wishes to the Honorable J. Kevin Chason upon the occasion of his retirement from his over two decades of service to his community, state and nation. His distinguished judicial service has improved the lives of countless communities across Georgia by dispensing fairness in the pursuit of justice for all.

CONGRATULATING JEFFERSON GIRLS VOLLEYBALL

HON. BLAINE LUETKEMEYER

OF MISSOURI

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Monday, November 14, 2022

Mr. LUETKEMEYER. Madam Speaker, I rise today to ask my colleagues to join me in congratulating the Jefferson Girls Volleyball team on their victory in the Class 2 Girls Volleyball State Championship.

Jefferson Girls Volleyball made history by claiming the schools first state title in any sport. Jefferson Girls Volleyball should be commended for all their hard work throughout the past year and for bringing home the state championship to their school and community.

Please join me in recognizing Jefferson Girls Volleyball for a job well done.

HONORING THE MARTINEZ SPORTSMEN'S CLUB

HON. MIKE THOMPSON

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Monday, November 14, 2022

Mr. THOMPSON of California. Madam Speaker, I rise today to honor the Martinez Sportsmen's Club, one of the oldest sportsmen's clubs in California.

Founded in 1920, the club was originally known as the Martinez Bass Club and housed in an old ferry in the Martinez Marina. Its goal was to allow nearby residents the opportunity to meet and share their recently caught fish. The club adopted its current name in the 1930s and moved to its current location on the Embarcadero in 56.

The Martinez Sportsmen's Club consists of around 130 members, and many of them are long-time Martinez residents who have family ties to the club's early years. Previously, women were automatically given membership upon the death of their husbands. Now, the club is open to all individuals who hope to further the Club's mission of strengthening the local community.

In past years, the club has provided scholarships to local high school students, offered an

indoor rifle range, and served as a gathering place where everyone from sheriffs, judges and congressmen to local business owners and fishermen can come together. It is currently led by President Robert Hatch, Vice President Lou Rossi and Secretary/Treasurer Linda Cunha.

Madam Speaker, the Martinez Sportsmen's Club has been an instrumental institution in our community for over a century. Therefore, it is fitting and proper that we honor it and its members here today.

RECOGNIZING DR. DENIS ROD FOR HIS LIFE OF SERVICE TO THE MIAMI COMMUNITY

HON. CARLOS A. GIMENEZ

OF FLORIDA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Monday, November 14, 2022

Mr. GIMENEZ. Madam Speaker, I rise today to honor Dr. Denis Rod for 30 years of committed community service. A 47-year resident of the City of Miami, Dr. Rod has dedicated his adult life to serving the people of Miami.

Dr. Rod has served the Miami community in countless ways, beginning with his leadership of Miami Dade College's Amigos Club, an organization that helped international students get acclimatized to the Miami area. For 6 years Dr. Rod worked for Habitat for Humanity in Homestead and Overtown. He has served on several boards, both public and private, including the City of Miami Planning Advisory Board (as co-chair), the Miami-Dade County International Trade Consortium, and the board of CareerSource South Florida. Dr. Rod has donated bicycles for charity and actively participates in both the Latin Chamber of Commerce Holiday Food Distribution program and the St. Vincent de Paul Catholic Charity. He is a certified "Citizen on Patrol" and active in his area.

I am not alone in extending a tribute to Dr. Rod, who has received many recognitions during his career. The cities of Miami, Hialeah, Sweetwater, West Miami, South Miami, and Miami Beach, as well as Miami-Dade County, have presented Proclamations to Dr. Rod. Dr. Rod has also received the Southern Command Citizens Medal and a State of Florida Tribute from then-President of the Florida House of Representatives MARCO RUBIO. It is not an exaggeration to state that wholehearted service has characterized Dr. Rod's entire life. On behalf of all the Miamians his life has touched, I thank Dr. Rod for serving our community so well.

RECOGNIZING THE 85TH ANNIVERSARY OF THE SEYMOUR PLANETARIUM

HON. RICHARD E. NEAL

OF MASSACHUSETTS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Monday, November 14, 2022

Mr. NEAL. Madam Speaker, I would like to take this opportunity to extend my warmest congratulations to Springfield Museums and the Seymour Planetarium on celebrating the Planetarium's 85th anniversary. This milestone achievement deserves the highest praise for

the hard work and dedication of the organization's board, staff, and everyone who has contributed to the Planetarium's success.

The doors of the Seymour Planetarium first opened in 1937. Founded by Chicopee brothers Frank, John and Stanley Korkosz, the Planetarium was created to educate and inspire, just as Frank Korkosz was inspired by the 1910 appearance of Halley's Comet, later building a rudimentary comet projector with a dynamite box and carbide lamp. Through their work, they have brought a new perspective of our universe to countless families and individuals.

Over the course of 85 years, the Planetarium has inspired generations of visitors. John Korkosz stressed the importance of curiosity and exploring the universe to better understand life on Earth. Through the creation of the Korkosz starball—the world's oldest operating, American-made star projector—he and his brothers have sparked that curiosity in countless others. The past few years, in particular, have highlighted the need for looking forward and inspiring the next generation of scientists and engineers.

Madam Speaker, I would like to congratulate Springfield Museums and the Seymour Planetarium again on celebrating the Planetarium's 85th anniversary and thank them for continuing to educate and inspire our communities. The Planetarium is a cherished landmark of Massachusetts' First District, and I wish them many more years of success and prosperity.

HONORING REV. ROBERT D. WELLS

HON. BENNIE G. THOMPSON

OF MISSISSIPPI

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Monday, November 14, 2022

Mr. THOMPSON of Mississippi. Madam Speaker, I rise today to honor a great leader, a believer, an example, and a man of God, Rev. Robert D. Wells.

Rev. Wells is a native of Hinds County, MS. He was born on September 1, 1945 and the only child of the late Sister Lucy Joiner. As a child, Rev. Wells was challenged with getting money for haircuts, but instead of allowing that to be an excuse, he used the gift God gave him and became a barber and now a licensed barber stylist.

On June 12, 1965, Rev. Wells was united in Holy Matrimony to the former Paulette Rodgers. They have been blessed with 3 children: Christopher Daniel, Melissa Danyell, and Michael Daniel; and 3 grandchildren: Christopher (CJ), Carla and Camron Christian.

Rev. Wells is a member of The New Caney Creek Missionary Baptist Church in Jackson, Mississippi. He received his license to preach the Gospel of Jesus Christ on May 14, 1972 and was ordained April 20, 1974.

Rev. Wells received his education in the Hinds County Public Schools. He matriculated in further studies at the Mississippi Baptist Seminary of Jackson, Mississippi, and the McKinley Theological Seminary, Inc., where he received a Bachelor of Theology Degree and a Master of Divinity Degree. Rev. Wells is also a graduate of Hinds Community College in Raymond, Mississippi.

Rev. Wells is known for serving. He served as one of the instructors for the McKinley

Theological Seminary. He has contributed to many organizations through membership, leadership (President, Supervisor), door to door evangelism, helping the needy, broadcast ministry, Instructor for 20 plus years with the Copiah County Alliance and a Pastor of four churches during his Pastorage.

Rev. Robert Daniel Wells is a born-again believer, preaching 50 years and pastoring 45 years in December 2022. Reverend and Mrs. R.D. Wells are in a united effort to bring about a spiritual change to the Glory of God.

Madam Speaker, I ask my colleagues to join me in recognizing Reverend Robert D. Wells for his outstanding services in Crystal Springs, Mississippi.

RECOGNIZING CJS ARCHITECTS ON FIVE DECADES AS A FIRM

HON. BRIAN HIGGINS

OF NEW YORK

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Monday, November 14, 2022

Mr. HIGGINS of New York. Madam Speaker, today I would like to recognize CJS Architects of Buffalo on the celebration of their 50th year in business. CJS Architects is one of New York's leading architectural design firms. Throughout the Western New York region, they have been responsible for the creation of countless development projects that have contributed to the resurgence of our community. Some of which include the Buffalo Central Terminal Rehabilitation, Graycliff Restoration, 500 Seneca, and The Sinclair.

Over the past fifty years, CJS Architects has received over 100 awards for their work. Throughout the years, I have had the opportunity to partake in many of these award ceremonies in addition to being present for numerous groundbreaking and ribbon cutting events. I have seen first-hand how much time and creative design is placed into each of their projects. CJS Architects has already done so much for Buffalo's restoration efforts, and they show no sign of stopping.

This firm's awards include the Residential Award through IIDA Buffalo, Outstanding Commercial Project from Preservation Buffalo Niagara, and multiple Merit and Design Awards by the American Institute of Architects. This represents only a few of the honors for which they have been recognized over the last five decades.

Every CJS project is not only approached as an opportunity to complete a client's objectives, but also as an opportunity to add value to our community. Because of this, each of their plans is unique and individualized by the firm. CJS Architects continue to work on Buffalo River Landing, 301 Ohio Street, and Westside Bazaar on Niagara Street. Furthermore, CJS has been the visionary behind the Broadway Market Master Planning and the African American Cultural Center Visioning. All these works have given Buffalo the opportunity to highlight local restaurants and merchants.

Madam Speaker, I am honored to recognize this firm and to commend them for their preservation and restoration of many of Buffalo's historic buildings. All of us in the Western New York community look forward to their future endeavors, and we wish to thank them for 50 years of their efforts.

CONGRATULATING THE LADY INDIANS ON THEIR STATE CHAMPIONSHIP

HON. BLAINE LUETKEMEYER

OF MISSOURI

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Monday, November 14, 2022

Mr. LUETKEMEYER. Madam Speaker, I rise today to ask my colleagues to join me in congratulating the School of Osage Lady Indians on their victory in the Class 2 Girls Golf Championship.

The Lady Indians made history, taking home the first state title in the history of School of the Osage. The Lady Indians should be commended for all their hard work throughout the past year and for bringing home the state championship to their school and community.

Please join me in recognizing The Lady Indians for a job well done.

RECOGNIZING ANNIE "ANN" H. FLOWERS

HON. SANFORD D. BISHOP, JR.

OF GEORGIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Monday, November 14, 2022

Mr. BISHOP of Georgia. Madam Speaker, I rise today to recognize a devoted wife, dedicated mother, outstanding educator, and friend to humankind, Mrs. Annie "Ann" H. Flowers. An event celebrating her 80th birthday was held on Saturday, October 22, 2022, at 2 p.m. at the New Grady Baptist Association meeting in Cairo, Georgia.

Mrs. Flowers is a native of Decatur County, Georgia. She has used her life's work to uplift humanity through selfless service. She dedicated thirty-two years of her life to molding and shaping our most precious resources, our young people. Her career in education is indeed a storied one. During her career in education with the Grady County School system, she served in numerous capacities to include Classroom Teacher, Math Coordinator, Title V. Director, Assistant Principal, and Principal. Never one to rest on her laurels after retirement, she came back to serve as an Interim Principal for one year.

It has been said that "Service is the rent that we pay for the space that we occupy here on this earth." Mrs. Flowers has paid her rent and she has paid it well. Her commitment to service is evident in all of the different professional causes that she has given her time and treasures. Those include: The Grady County Retired Educators, Georgia Association of Education Leaders, Georgia and National Associations of Education, National Middle School Association, National Executive Female Organization, Southwest Regional Director of Middle School Principals, Governor's School Leadership Institute, Georgia Council of School performance and Georgia Department of School Improvement Specialists.

The great Agricultural Chemist George Washington Carver once said that "How far one goes in life depends on your being tender with the young, compassionate with the aged, sympathetic with the strong and tolerant of the weak and strong. Because someday in your life you will have been all of these." Mrs. Flowers has used her life's work both profes-

sionally and socially to minister to people from all walks of life. She is the Founder of the Boys to Men Mentoring Programs, a member of the Board of Directors for Grady County United Way, Friends of Roddenberry Memorial Library, The Thomas Grady Service Center Board, Southwest Georgia Board of Easter Seals of Grady County, and Georgia Pines Community Service Board. She has also served on the Advisory Board for the Head Start of Grady County. Mrs. Flowers is also a life member of the Order of Eastern Star Chapter No. 36.

Mrs. Flowers has also received numerous awards and honors during her life, most notably the Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr. Drum Major for Peace Award and has the distinction of being the First African American Principal in Grady County, Georgia after integration.

Mrs. Flowers is a woman after God's own heart. She is a member of the Mount Calvary Missionary Baptist Church in Cairo, Georgia, where she is a Deaconess, a member of the Minister's wives Ministry and Pastor's Aide Ministry. She truly embodies the words of Acts 9:36: "She was abounding in good deeds and acts of charity."

Mrs. Flowers has accomplished many things in her life, but none of these would have been possible without her faith, the love and support of her husband, The Reverend Henry C. Flowers, Jr. and their three children.

Madam Speaker, I ask my colleagues to join my wife, Vivian and me along with the more than 730,000 people of the Second Congressional District in extending our sincerest appreciation and best wishes to Mrs. Annie "Ann" H. Flowers on the occasion of her 80th Birthday and her phenomenal service to God and Humankind. May God continue to bless her and her family.

HONORING TOM ECOFF

HON. GREG PENCE

OF INDIANA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Monday, November 14, 2022

Mr. PENCE. Madam Speaker, I rise today to celebrate a fearless and courageous Hoosier and American Hero, Tom Ecoff.

Born on October 23, 1922, Mr. Ecoff enlisted in the United States Armed Forces at just 19-years old. He served in the 82nd Airborne as a paratrooper.

Mr. Ecoff jumped into Saint-Mere-Eglise on June 6, 1944—parachuting into Normandy on D-Day and fought in several integral battles across Europe that decided the course of the war. Mr. Ecoff ran into gunfire to save his fellow soldiers on the battlefield.

Mr. Ecoff is both a Bronze Star and Purple Heart Recipient for his bravery during World War II.

After being honorably discharged from the United States Army, Mr. Ecoff continued to chase the American Dream—creating a highly-successful trucking company back at home in Indiana.

This year, Mr. Ecoff celebrated his one-hundredth Birthday. He attributes this longevity to his loving family of four children, seven grandchildren and great-grandchildren, stating "I live every day for my family. That's the reason I'm here. If I didn't have them, life would not be interesting enough to continue. I give them all the credit for my hundred years."

Madam Speaker, our nation is forever indebted to veterans of the Greatest Generation, like Tom Ecoff, for their service and sacrifice.

On behalf of Indiana's Sixth Congressional District and the United States House of Representatives—I thank Tom Ecoff for his service. May God Bless him and God Bless America.

RECOGNIZING DOROTHY “DOT” THEODORE

HON. ERIC SWALWELL

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Monday, November 14, 2022

Mr. SWALWELL. Madam Speaker, I rise today to recognize Dot Theodore, who concluded her service as a trustee on the board of the Castro Valley Unified School District (CVUSD) on November 9, 2022, after 8 years of service.

After receiving her Bachelor of Science in Biology from San Francisco State University in 1998, Dot began to work in biotech research in the Bay Area. In 2004, Dot and her husband chose to lay down roots in Castro Valley. Dot then continued her education and obtained a Master's in Public Health in 2013 from the University of California, Berkeley. Currently, she serves as the interim director for the Alameda County Public Health Department's Office of HIV Care, where she provides support for local organizations that serve low-income individuals living with HIV.

With 2 children attending Castro Valley Unified schools, Dot became heavily involved in school affairs. From 2011 to 2016, Dot served as PTA President for Castro Valley Elementary. In 2012, she served as an executive board member for Creekside Middle School Parents Club. Dot has also served on CVUSD's Local Control Accountability Plan Steering Committee and recently served as the Head of the Safe Routes to School program at Castro Valley Elementary. In that role, she coordinated events promoting active transportation and safety for students. She also participates with Bike/Walk CV to add more sidewalks in Castro Valley.

In 2014, Dot was elected as a board trustee for CVUSD and re-elected in 2018, serving as board president until her departure. While on the board, Dot worked to embrace the growing diversity of the district and ensure students could access a high-quality education at all grade levels.

She has overseen new dual immersion programs, the creation of an Engineering pathway for students, placement of social workers and counseling support for elementary students, and the implementation of culturally responsive curricula for educators. Dot was also instrumental in creating wellness centers for students at Castro Valley High School and both Canyon and Creekside middle schools through Measure G Bond funds.

For 8 years, Dot has remained a fierce advocate for the students of CVUSD and worked to ensure that the district lived up to its “All means all” motto. Her presence will be missed on the board, but I am sure she will continue to fight for our children. I join the community in celebrating her numerous achievements on the board and wish her rest and relaxation with her children, Ben, and Daphne, as she starts her new chapter.

CONGRATULATING THE CRU- SADERS ON THEIR STATE CHAM- PIONSHIP

HON. BLAINE LUETKEMEYER

OF MISSOURI

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Monday, November 14, 2022

Mr. LUETKEMEYER. Madam Speaker, I rise today to ask my colleagues to join me in congratulating the St. Dominic Crusaders on their victory in the Class 4 Girls Soccer State Championship.

The Crusaders took home their second consecutive Class 4 title. The Crusaders should be commended for all their hard work throughout the past year and for bringing home the state championship to their school and community.

Please join me in recognizing the Crusaders for a job well done.

HONORING THE MISSISSIPPI RAPID RESPONSE COALITION

HON. BENNIE G. THOMPSON

OF MISSISSIPPI

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Monday, November 14, 2022

Mr. THOMPSON of Mississippi. Madam Speaker, I rise today to honor the Mississippi Rapid Response Coalition. The coalition has gone beyond the call of duty to ensure that communities in Mississippi are taken care of during critical times.

The Mississippi Rapid Response Coalition was formed in 2020 in response to the COVID-19 pandemic. MRRC has since responded to crises caused by climate change and failing infrastructure across the state of Mississippi. The Mississippi Rapid Response Coalition, also called “The Coalition,” is comprised of over 30 organizations around the state of Mississippi. The organizations that make up the Coalition were 1st responders during COVID and after the Winter Storm of 2021, providing needed resources to Mississippians in need.

The Coalition has continued to be a rapid response provider during this latest crisis affecting Jackson, MS, providing drinking water across Jackson's 7 wards and assisting those in need. MRRC has distributed thousands of cases of water to Jackson residents and provided other necessary services, and I am forever grateful for their work.

Madam Speaker, I ask my colleagues to join me in recognizing the Mississippi Rapid Response Coalition for their service to the citizens of Mississippi during their time of distress.

HONORING THE LIFE OF MR. VICTOR MARVAR, SR.

HON. STEVEN M. PALAZZO

OF MISSISSIPPI

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Monday, November 14, 2022

Mr. PALAZZO. Madam Speaker, I rise to honor the outstanding life and legacy of Mr. Victor Vadrian Marvar, Sr. who passed away on September 3rd, 2022, at 96 years old. This

great man left behind a powerful legacy as a businessman, philanthropist, and founder of the Mississippi Republican Party on the Gulf Coast.

Born on July 27, 1926 in Biloxi, Mississippi. He earned his Bachelor of Science degree from the United States Merchant Marine Academy. He received a Commission as a second Lieutenant in the U.S. Naval Reserve. In 1950, he was called into the U.S. Navy to serve in the Korean War aboard the USS *Paricutin*. After his military service career ended in 1952, he began working the family seafood processing business. He was even elected President of the American Shrimp Processors Association.

Mr. Marvar was dedicated to the Mississippi Gulf Coast Republican party and served three terms as Harrison County Republican Party Chairman and one term representing the State of Mississippi on the Republican National Committee. He was a delegate to several county, state and national Republican conventions and was a Mississippi Presidential Elector for President Richard M. Nixon and President George W. Bush. Former Governor Haley Barbour awarded him the Mississippi Medal of Service in recognition of his work to improve the community and the state.

Mr. Marvar was elected to the Hancock Bank Board of Directors where he served on several committees for 25 years.

Victor was married to his wife, Gayle, for 64 years and together they had 6 children. He and his wife established a scholarship at the University of Southern Mississippi, School of Nursing. They also established scholarships at the Mississippi College School of Law, Vanderbilt University MBA School, and West Virginia Wesleyan University. They established a fund to support the operation of the Learning Disability Department at Nativity B.V.M. Elementary School in Biloxi.

Mr. Marvar spent a great many years contributing to his community as a businessman, philanthropist, and family man. He was an outstanding citizen of the Biloxi, Mississippi, and the United States, and his contributions stand as a reminder to all of us that it is better to serve than to be served. It is my honor and privilege to recognize Mr. Victor Vadrian Marvar, Sr.

God Bless and Semper Fi.

INTRODUCTION OF THE JUSTICE FOR SHIREEN ACT

HON. ANDRÉ CARSON

OF INDIANA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Monday, November 14, 2022

Mr. CARSON. Madam Speaker, I am proud to introduce the Justice for Shireen Act today. I thank my House and Senate colleagues that joined me to call on the FBI and State Department, in consultation with the Secretary of Defense and Director of National Intelligence, to submit a report to Congress on the death of American-Palestinian Journalist, Shireen Abu Akleh. I send my deep condolences to the Abu Akleh family for this terrible killing and stand with them to demand justice and accountability.

Shireen Abu Akleh, an American-Palestinian journalist, was killed on May 11, 2022. She was killed wearing a clearly marked press vest

on assignment, reporting on a military raid which took place in the occupied city of Jenin. In May, I led a letter, signed by 58 Members of Congress, to the FBI and State Department calling for an independent and open investigation led by her home country, the United States and 24 Senators have echoed this request. It has been six months since we have sent this letter. Today, I continue to call for answers into the death of Shireen Abu Akleh.

As an American, Ms. Abu Akleh was entitled to the full protections afforded to U.S. citizens living abroad. As Members of Congress, we need to uphold the values that our Nation was founded on, including human rights, equality for all, and freedom of speech. As Members of Congress, we have a duty to protect Americans reporting abroad. An Israeli investigation has concluded, finding that it was indeed an Israel Solider that shot Ms. Abu Akleh in her line of duty. It is the responsibility of the U.S. to learn all the unanswered questions leading up to, during and after the fatal shot that killed Ms. Abu Akleh. Additionally, this bill requires an identification of any United States defense materials or services that were implicated in the death of Ms. Abu Akleh. No U.S. weapons and military services by the U.S. should be used to kill Americans on foreign soil. American taxpayers should not be paying for any violation of human rights abroad.

Madam Speaker, I hope my colleagues will join me in calling for justice and accountability for Shireen Abu Akleh.

HONORING THE VALLEJO SYMPHONY ASSOCIATION

HON. MIKE THOMPSON

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Monday, November 14, 2022

Mr. THOMPSON of California. Madam Speaker, I rise today to honor the Vallejo Symphony in recognition of their 90th anniversary.

The Vallejo Symphony was founded in 1931, in the midst of the Great Depression. Led by conductor Julius Weyand, the original group consisted of 60 musicians. Hoping to uplift their struggling community, local leaders were able to raise the funds necessary to bring world class music to their town.

Over the years, the Vallejo Symphony has seen tremendous growth, both in funding and notoriety. The Vallejo Symphony Association was founded in 1951, and acclaimed conductor Dr. George Wargo began his two-decade tenure as the orchestra's leader. During this time, the Vallejo Symphony performed both Wargo's Symphony in G and Concerto for Strings.

Upon Wargo's departure, David Ramadanoff, a former associate conductor of the San Francisco Symphony, became the symphony's new leader, guiding it through three decades of excellence. Today, the Vallejo Symphony is led by Marc Taddei, Music Director of Orchestra Wellington.

In addition to traditional concerts, the Vallejo Symphony routinely welcomes distinguished guest artists from around the globe in an effort to bring diverse music to Solano County residents. In 1993, they performed with the Akashi Choral Society in Japan for a celebration of the relationship between Akashi and Vallejo.

Additionally, the Vallejo Symphony has sent musicians to perform in public schools, engaging and inspiring countless young students via classical music.

Madam Speaker, the Vallejo Symphony has filled our community with rich, varied, and world-class music for nearly a century. Therefore, it is fitting and proper that it is honored here today.

CONGRATULATING TRIGG LINDAHL ON HIS STATE CHAMPIONSHIP

HON. BLAINE LUETKEMEYER

OF MISSOURI

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Monday, November 14, 2022

Mr. LUETKEMEYER. Madam Speaker, I rise today to ask my colleagues to join me in congratulating Trigg Lindahl on his victory in the Class 2 Boys Golf Championship.

Trigg made history, becoming the first individual Class 2 Golf State Champion to come out of Hermann High. Trigg should be commended for all his hard work throughout the past year and for bringing home the state championship to his school and community.

Please join me in recognizing Trigg Lindahl for a job well done.

HONORING LINDA CITCHENS DOWNING

HON. BENNIE G. THOMPSON

OF MISSISSIPPI

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Monday, November 14, 2022

Mr. THOMPSON of Mississippi. Madam Speaker, I rise today to honor a remarkable hero, Mrs. Linda Citchens Downing.

Linda Citchens Downing is the daughter of the late Mary Alice Catchings-Broom and Eulis Broom, Sr. Born in Clarksdale, Mississippi, she grew up the middle child of 11 siblings. Her mother, being the sole provider for her large family, instilled in her the qualities of discipline, hard work, and dedication to duty. Determined to set her children up for a better life, Mary worked at the Coco-Cola Bottling Company and cleaned homes on Saturday to provide for them. What the family lacked in material possessions, they made up for in love and faith. Although Mary only had an 8th grade education, she wanted to insure her children had more access to education than she had.

After graduating high school, Linda yearned for just that goal. At the time, her goal was to become a lawyer who provided legal representation for the underserved; however, that course was not to be. With little money and lacking the type of support necessary for law school, she would find an alternate route to achieving her goal of helping people, and that was via education. Her older sisters had graduated from college and become teachers, and Linda decided to follow suit.

She attended Coahoma Junior College, now Coahoma Community College, where she served as Miss Coahoma Junior College in 1978 to 1979. In March of 1979, she got married, and in May of that same year, she graduated with high honor from CJC. A year later, she had her first child. Being a wife, mother,

and attending college was difficult for a 20-year-old, so Linda decided to quit Delta State University when she became pregnant with her second daughter. She pressed on, though, enrolling at Mississippi Valley State University soon afterwards. Not having transportation, she commuted with one of the professors, often taking her baby to class with her.

When one of her professors told her she wouldn't be able to finish her degree with two babies, Linda became even more resolved to get the job done and achieve her overarching goals of service and support to the community. Her second daughter was born in December of 1981; by December of 1982, she had completed her Bachelor's Degree, Cum Laude. She began her teaching career at Oakhurst Elementary School, and in the following years, she taught the gamut of elementary education, all while inspiring and motivating her students to think bigger and to desire more. She enrolled in graduate school at Delta State, receiving a Master's Degree in Elementary Education. Shortly thereafter, she moved up to lead teacher. Another stint at Delta State produced a Master's degree in counseling, after which she was hired as a middle school counselor, performing in that capacity for 7 years. Conrad Hilton said, "Success seems to be connected with action. Successful people keep moving." And that's what Linda did. She returned to school to study administration, and to that end, she was hired as an elementary school principal. When that proved successful, she was promoted to middle school principal.

She served as principal of Oakhurst Middle School for 7 years. During her tenure, she changed the culture of the school in academics and athletics and brought it to successful status. Linda implemented numerous incentives such as Teacher of the Year (the teacher with the most improved scores in standardized tests would receive \$500 paid by the principal); Most Improved of Teacher (the most improved teacher would receive \$250 paid by the principal); as well as financial incentives (donated by stakeholders) for students scoring proficient and advanced on state tests, and in the process, increased parental and community support by 75 percent. As a result of her achievement as a principal, in 2010, Linda was hired as the Secondary Curriculum Director of the Clarksdale Public School District. In 2016, Linda earned a Specialist degree in administration and supervision from Arkansas State University. Finally, after 32 years of being guided by the principles her mother imparted in her, she retired.

Linda only remained out of education for a year, returning because of her love and respect for her vocation and the positive effects of her actions on the world around her. Currently, she serves as the Chief Academic Office of the Quitman County School District, where she works full time on a part-time salary. Despite this, she has a hand in almost all aspects of education in the district: from site visits to new teacher training, to the organization of large-scale events on the district's behalf. She does what she does because of love; she loves the students, the teachers, the parents, and she is committed to education.

At the age of 8, Linda stated cooking for her younger brothers and sisters. This inspired a lifelong love of cooking and baking. As part owner of 7Sisters Catering, she regularly donates her food and services to church, school,

and community events. She has received the Epsilon Xi Lambda Chapter of Alpha Phi Alpha Fraternity, Inc. Delta Leadership Award; the NAACP Mother of the Year Award; The Women in the Community Award; and serves as youth minister at the church she attends. Linda has been married to Roy Downing for 22 years, and together they have 4 daughters and 3 grandchildren. The proverb that says, if you want to give a job to somebody, give it to someone that already has a lot to do is a model for Linda's life—but she does and has always gotten the job done.

Madam Speaker, I ask my colleagues to join me in recognizing Mrs. Linda Citchens Downing for she is the epitome of an unsung hero.

IN RECOGNITION OF THE NATIONAL LETTER CARRIERS ASSOCIATION

HON. CAROLYN B. MALONEY

OF NEW YORK

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Monday, November 14, 2022

Mrs. CAROLYN B. MALONEY of New York. Madam Speaker, I rise to pay tribute to the National Association of Letter Carriers (NALC), Branch 36., on the occasion of their 46th annual dinner dance. For over 130 years, Branch 36 has demonstrated its steadfast dedication to its members, their families, and the larger communities of Manhattan and the Bronx.

Founded in 1889, New York Letter Carriers, Branch 36 has represented the interest of its members and their families by fighting for adequate benefits and working conditions, offering scholarships to New York City youth, and defending pensions for retirees.

In 1970, as a rank-and-file letter carrier at Grand Central Station, Vincent Sombroto assumed leadership of the wildcat postal strike that directly led to the creation of the modern U.S. Postal Service. The following year he was elected president of Branch 36, and later went on to become the 16th President of NALC.

Branch 36 is located in the Vincent Sombroto Post Office at Grand Central Station, which was renamed through legislation that I introduced in the House of Representatives after his passing in 2013 and its leadership today continues in his tradition of leadership.

Branch 36 President Charlie Heege and all of the Branch officers and members provide such an important service to vulnerable residents and communities. Through all of their continued efforts, Branch 36 remains a true beacon of leadership and strength.

The support of the NALC was also crucial to passing the Postal Service Reform Act, which I introduced in the House of Representatives. This legislation will critically reform the Postal Service and ensure it is on stable financial footing.

Madam Speaker, I ask my colleagues to join me in recognizing the laudable history of Branch 36 and in expressing my gratitude for its continued commitment to its members, families, and community.

SENATE COMMITTEE MEETINGS

Title IV of Senate Resolution 4, agreed to by the Senate of February 4,

1977, calls for establishment of a system for a computerized schedule of all meetings and hearings of Senate committees, subcommittees, joint committees, and committees of conference. This title requires all such committees to notify the Office of the Senate Daily Digest—designated by the Rules Committee—of the time, place and purpose of the meetings, when scheduled and any cancellations or changes in the meetings as they occur.

As an additional procedure along with the computerization of this information, the Office of the Senate Daily Digest will prepare this information for printing in the Extensions of Remarks section of the CONGRESSIONAL RECORD on Monday and Wednesday of each week.

Meetings scheduled for Tuesday, November 15, 2022 may be found in the Daily Digest of today's record.

MEETINGS SCHEDULED

NOVEMBER 16

Time to be announced

Committee on Health, Education, Labor, and Pensions

Business meeting to consider the nominations of Karla Ann Gilbride, of Maryland, to be General Counsel of the Equal Employment Opportunity Commission, Jessica Looman, of Minnesota, to be Administrator of the Wage and Hour Division, Department of Labor, Moshe Z. Marvit, of Pennsylvania, to be a Member of the Federal Mine Safety and Health Review Commission, and other pending calendar business.

TBA

10 a.m.

Committee on Foreign Relations

To hold hearings to examine U.S. policy in the Caucasus.

SD-419

10:30 a.m.

Special Committee on Aging

To hold hearings to examine promoting healthy and affordable food for older Americans.

SD-562

2:30 p.m.

Committee on Indian Affairs

Business meeting to consider S. 3168, to amend the White Mountain Apache Tribe Water Rights Quantification Act of 2010 to modify the enforceability date for certain provisions, S. 3308, to authorize the Colorado River Indian Tribes to enter into lease or exchange agreements and storage agreements relating to water of the Colorado River allocated to the Colorado River Indian Tribes, S. 4104, to approve the settlement of water rights claims of the Hualapai Tribe and certain allottees in the State of Arizona, to authorize construction of a water project relating to those water rights claims, and an original bill to amend the Not Invisible Act of 2019 to extend, and provide additional support for, the activities of the Department of the Interior and the Department of Justice Joint Commission on Reducing Violent Crime Against Indians; to be immediately followed by a hearing to examine S. 4870, to approve the settlement of the water right claims of the Tule River Tribe, and S. 4898, to approve the settlement of water rights claims of the Pueblos of Acoma and Laguna in the Rio San Jose

Stream System in the State of New Mexico.

SD-628

Select Committee on Intelligence

To receive a closed briefing on certain intelligence matters.

SVC-217

3 p.m.

Committee on Veterans' Affairs

To hold hearings to examine the Department of Veterans Affairs implementation of the SFC Heath Robinson Honoring our PACT Act.

SD-G50

4:15 p.m.

Committee on Homeland Security and Governmental Affairs

Business meeting to consider H.R. 3175, to designate the facility of the United States Postal Service located at 135 Main Street in Biloxi, Mississippi, as the "Robert S. McKeithen Post Office Building", and the nominations of Robert Harley Shriver III, of Virginia, to be Deputy Director of the Office of Personnel Management, and Richard L. Revesz, of New York, to be Administrator of the Office of Information and Regulatory Affairs, Office of Management and Budget.

SD-342

NOVEMBER 17

9 a.m.

Committee on the Judiciary

Business meeting to consider the nominations of Anthony Devos Johnstone, of Montana, to be United States Circuit Judge for the Ninth Circuit, Maria Araujo Kahn, of Connecticut, to be United States Circuit Judge for the Second Circuit, Julie Rikelman, of Massachusetts, to be United States Circuit Judge for the First Circuit, Daniel J. Calabretta, to be United States District Judge for the Eastern District of California, Matthew L. Garcia, to be United States District Judge for the District of New Mexico, Margaret R. Guzman, to be United States District Judge for the District of Massachusetts, Jeffery Paul Hopkins, to be United States District Judge for the Southern District of Ohio, Lindsay C. Jenkins, to be United States District Judge for the Northern District of Illinois, Araceli Martinez-Olguin, to be United States District Judge for the Northern District of California, Adrienne C. Nelson, to be United States District Judge for the District of Oregon, Jamar K. Walker, to be United States District Judge for the Eastern District of Virginia, Jamal N. Whitehead, to be United States District Judge for the Western District of Washington, and McLain J. Schneider, to be United States Attorney for the District of North Dakota, and David C. Davis, of Illinois, to be United States Marshal for the Southern District of Illinois, both of the Department of Justice.

SH-216

10 a.m.

Committee on Environment and Public Works

Subcommittee on Chemical Safety, Waste Management, Environmental Justice, and Regulatory Oversight

To hold hearings to examine the nominations of Stephen A. Owens, of Arizona, to be Chairperson, and Catherine J.K. Sandoval, of California, to be a Member, both of the Chemical Safety and Hazard Investigation Board.

SD-406

10:15 a.m.

Committee on Homeland Security and
Governmental Affairs

To hold hearings to examine threats to
the homeland.

SD-342

11 a.m.

Committee on Energy and Natural Re-
sources

To hold hearings to examine the nomina-
tions of David Crane, of New Jersey, to

be Under Secretary, Jeffrey Matthew
Marootian, of the District of Columbia,
to be an Assistant Secretary (Energy
Efficiency and Renewable Energy), and
Gene Rodrigues, of California, to be an
Assistant Secretary (Electricity Deliv-
ery and Energy Reliability), all of the
Department of Energy.

SD-366

POSTPONEMENTS

NOVEMBER 16

10 a.m.

Committee on the Judiciary

To hold an oversight hearing to examine
the Department of Homeland Security.

SD-106